

Horseman And Samuels On Goal Trail

MAXIMUM POINTS FOR WANDERERS

By "CHILTERN"

Hitchin Town 1, Wycombe Wanderers 3

WYCOMBE WANDERERS collected their fourth Isthmian League point in as many days at Hitchin on Tuesday night, but their win, although well-deserved, came against one of the worst defences I have seen for a long, long time.

Hitchin's trouble was that they tried to play 4-3-3, and just didn't know how to do it. As a result Wycombe's forwards, always eager, were on top for most of the game.

Yet during the first-half Wycombe looked as if they didn't want goals. The floodlights came on three minutes before half-time and I had just written in my notebook: "This is the brightest thing of the night", when Tony Horseman headed Wycombe into the lead.

It was a well-taken effort. Roberts, needlessly I thought, gave away a corner which Worley floated across the goalmouth. Samuels outjumped the defence and headed across to Horseman who made no mistake.

Early in the second-half Horseman nipped through but was foiled by a brilliant save by Turner. But now it was all Wycombe. They were able to hold onto the ball and move as they pleased as the poor old Hitchin defence

bunched, fly-kicked and fell over each other.

PANIC

Their left-half Gething almost scored an own goal when he headed against his own post in panic.

Yet right against the run of play, Hitchin were awarded a penalty and Church chipped the ball home from the spot. The penalty was given against Rundle who tripped Ince who was going through fast.

It was after this that Wycombe made up their minds to win. Worley burst through on his own, beat two defenders and then shot wide when well placed.

Then Samuels, who looks—and feels—a vastly improved player, headed Wanderers into the lead again. This was a good goal. Merrick made ground on the right, slipped the ball back to Bates, and the skipper hit a high centre which Samuels, foraging in the goalmouth, met with his forehead.

Five minutes later it was "Sammy" again making sure. Horseman chipped a short pass to his colleague and Samuels hit it first time past the startled Turner.

Beck was again outstanding in the defence, showing fine anticipation, and Gale and Baker had grand second-halves. Once again Bates worked hard, generalling the side well.